

September 7, 2005

The regular planning/action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, September 7, 2005, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson School. Mr. Raab, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Mr. Michael Raab, President
Ms. Debra McQuillan, Vice President
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)
Ms. Carmen J. Piñeyro, Trustee

Absent were: Ms. Sunday F. Coward, Trustee

Also present were: Dr. Eric L. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for
Personnel & Clerk of the Board
Mr. Robert Harris, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning
Mr. Michael Singleton, Interim Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were: none

Guest: none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 15.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools praised the faculty and staff for a successful opening of school. He noted that over 2,000 people attended the First Day barbecue and a like number of parents accompanied their children to school on September 6th. It was a successful third year for the events. Kudos were given to the many teachers, PTA members and others who made the events work.

The Superintendent also had some sad news. A moment of silence was held for Edwin Deras, an Atkinson student killed in an auto accident the previous Friday. It was also noted that the Freeport School flags will be flown at half mast in memory of the victims of Hurricane Katrina and the passing of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Kishore Kuncham announced that the state has recently authorized school districts to start retirement reserve funds and that Freeport would do so. Such a fund would enable the District to guard against future liability costs which have strained recent budgets.

Mr. Robert Harris, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning gave a power point presentation on "The Wall of Fame", with the idea that the program be re-started. The matter was referred to the Community Outreach Committee.

Questions from the Public

The public was then given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for six minutes on any topic. The Board and Administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

Approval of CSE and PSE Meetings

Ms. McQuillan made the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the committees on special education and preschool special education for the following dates: April 11, 2005; April 19, 2005; May 9, 2005; May 23, 2005; May 26, 2005; June 8, 2005; August 16, 2005.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Executive Session

At 9:00 p.m., Ms. Piñeyro moved to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session to discuss negotiations, a particular matter of personnel and litigation. The motion was seconded by Ms. McQuillan and unanimously carried. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

At 10:24 p.m., on a motion by Ms. McQuillan and seconded by Ms. Piñeyro, the Board returned to open session. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Adjournment

At 10:25 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Ms. McQuillan and seconded by Ms. Piñeyro, the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was unanimous: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be an action meeting on September 21, 2005, at Caroline G. Atkinson School.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed. D.
Clerk of the Board